EV 394063084 US PTO/SB/21 (01-03) Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ellection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a **Application Number** 09/967,224 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date September 28, 2001 **FORM** First Named Inventor Thomas Gilbert Art Unit 1722 (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) **Examiner Name** Thu Khanh T. Nguyen Attorney Docket Number D0932-00252 (VS-8457) Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) to Group Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Amendment/Reply Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Change of Correspondence Address Affidavits/declaration(s) Other Enclosure(s) (please Terminal Disclaimer **Extension of Time Request** Identify below): - Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal (PTOL-85) Request for Refund - Comments on Statement of Reasons for **Express Abandonment Request** Allowance CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement - Return Postcard Remarks Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Steven E. Koffs, Registration No. 37,163 Individual Signature Date CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

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Appl. No.

09/967,224

Applicant

Thomas Gilbert

Filed Title September 28, 2001
Apparatus and Method for

Continuous Vacuum Forming

Shaped Polymeric Articles

TC/A.U.

1722

Examiner

Thu Khanh T. Nguyen

Confirmation No.

2826

Docket No.

D0932-00252

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowability of February 2, 2004, please enter the following remarks:

In the Statement of Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner states, "Bosler, however, fails to disclose a ... second water cooling means ... and hole-punching means ..."

Applicants note that independent claim 26 specifies, "further cooling means" and does not require a "second water cooling means". Neither the cooling means nor the further cooling means of claim 26 includes any recitation of "water". Also, claim 26 does not require "hole-punching means". Therefore, independent claim 26 is not limited by these comments in the "Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for issuance. Early issuance of a patent is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven E. Koffs

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